39.

CAUTION.

THAT no Perſon may plead Ignorance of the Laws now exiſting, for determining the Right of voting at the Election of Members to ſerve in Parliament for the County of Suffolk, it has been thought proper to publiſh the following Clauſes from the ſeveral Acts of Parliament made for regulating County Elections.

By the 31ſt Geo. II. ch. 14, ſect. 1, it is enacted, That no perſon who holds his eſtate by *copy of court roll*, ſhall be entitled thereby to vote at the election of any knight, or knights, of the ſhire, within the part of Great Britain called England, or Principality of Wales: And if any perſon ſhall vote in any ſuch election, contrary to the true intent and meaning hereof, every ſuch vote ſhall be void to all intents and purpoſes whatſoever; and every perſon ſo voting ſhall forfeit to any candidate, for whom ſuch vote ſhall not have been given, and who ſhall firſt ſue for the ſame, the ſum of *Fifty* pounds; and in every ſuch action the proof ſhall lie on the perſon againſt whom ſuch action ſhall be brought.

Copyholders not to vote. Penalty 50l.

The conſequence of his producing this proof may affect him infinitely beyond the action for the Fifty pounds; for, by the Freeholder's oath, he is required to ſwear, that he is a freeholder, and has a freehold eſtate; and if he *ſwears falſely* he incurs the puniſhment inflicted for *perjury*; ſo that by laying the proof upon him in a civil action, he may be compelled to furniſh evidence to convict himſelf of an *infamous crime*.

By the 18th Geo. II. ch. 18, it is enacted, That no perſon ſhall vote in any election without having a freehold eſtate in the county for which he votes, of the clear yearly value of Forty Shillings, over and above all rents and charges payable out of, or in reſpect of the ſame, or without having been in the actual poſſeſſion, or in receipt of the rents and profits thereof for his own uſe, above Twelve calendar months, unleſs the ſame came to him, within the time aforeſaid, by deſcent, marriage, marriage-ſettlement, deviſe or promotion to any benefice in any church, or by promotion to an office, or ſhall vote in reſpect or in right of any freehold eſtate, which was made or granted to him fraudulently, on purpoſe to qualify him to give his vote, or ſhall *vote more than once* at the ſame election; and if any perſon ſhall vote in any ſuch election contrary to the true intent and meaning hereof, he ſhall forfeit to any candidate, for whom ſuch vote ſhall not have been given, and who ſhall firſt ſue for the ſame, the ſum of *Forty Pounds*

If any Freeholder votes more than once he forfeits 40l.